

**METHOD OF COLOR QUANTIZATION IN COLOR IMAGES****ABSTRACT**

A method for assigning a color symbol to an image pixel comprises selecting a luminance  
5 value from a discrete set of quantized luminance values; selecting a chrominance value from an  
ordered discrete set of quantized chrominance values; and composing a color symbol from an  
index of the selected luminance value and an index of an ordinal position of the selected  
chrominance value. In particular embodiments of the invention, each discrete chrominance value  
10 is selected from a Fibonacci lattice on a constant-luminance plane in a perceptually uniform color  
space such as *Lab* or *Luv*.